

Reverend Anthony J. Motley

Via Email

March 20, 2010

Ms. Nikita Stewart
Reporter
The Washington Post Newspaper
15th Street, NW
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Stewart,

I have pondered quite long and thoughtful over responding to your article dated, Thursday, February 25, 2010, entitled "Marion Barry ally at nonprofit resigns after misconduct alleged". So, please indulge me as I attempt to share my thoughts with you on this matter.

First, in your article you yourself misstated some facts and even quoted something out of context which helped to characterize me in a negative light. For instance, you stated that Carol Randolph was a board member of the JOBS Coalition. Ms. Randolph is not, nor has she ever been a board member. See how non-facts, as reported in the Washington Post or in the Bennett Report, can be reported as fact and believed by those who don't know any better. You went on to say that "Motley personally received about \$54,000 from the earmarks...", however, you failed to mention that the funds received were done so under contract, and that my response to the Bennett report included an extensive detail of how those monies were spent, to include the large pictorial presentation made to you, in my conference room, of one of my community projects.

Ms. Stewart, please know that I wear several hats in operating a number of organizations located in Ward Eight and operating out of the Bellevue Resource Center. If you have my business card most of those organizations are listed on the card. I don't have a problem acknowledging those administrative, management and program positions, operating in them, and creating collaborations between all those organizations, and getting the job done we are contracted to do. Bennett's report and my response defer in terms of how I did what I did to get the job done.

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Moreover, as you ended your article you gave a very graphic description of our conference room, lectern, with the blue disposable table cloth, an Obama 2010 calendar, and a plaque hanging on the wall reading “Hustling for Souls”. I have no idea your intentions, but I do know that some people who read the closing paragraph were astonished at the insinuations made in your closing. Please allow me to clarify that you failed to mention that there was a large wood presentation board hanging in the room which when opened reveals two clothed peg boards, a dry eraser marker board and a video/projector screen for power point and video presentations. Besides the long conference table which sits eight, there was also a computer desk with telephone in the room, along with a sitting area for four to six people.

In closing, below your final words “Hustling for Souls”, which was actually coined by the editors of the Washington Post in an article written by Peter Pearl, entitled “The Man Who Would Save Washington” in 2001, were my words, “Dedicated to Lives Lost on the Streets of Southeast Since 1986”. Maybe your readers would have liked to have had some of those descriptions and facts as well. It would probably have made for a more balanced portrayal of me and my intentions.

Very Truly Yours,

Anthony J. Motley

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